

Training session held for TAA

A recent training session was held for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Coordinators from WorkOne offices around the State and their local Rapid Response partners. The session was geared toward TAA personnel who manage the ups and downs of dislocation events and the workers involved.

The training session, "From Pink Slip to Paycheck: success with Dislocated Workers," was presented by nationally known trainer, Larry Robbin.

Employment Trends

September Unemployment Rate

Indiana's non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September was 4.8 percent. This is three-tenths of a percentage point below the national rate of 5.1 percent.

3,001,100 million Hoosiers were employed during September.

Indiana's September unemployment rate was lower than Michigan, 6.2 percent; Ohio, 5.7 percent; and Illinois at 5.7 percent. Kentucky's rate was lower at 4.3 percent.

September Unemployment Insurance Stats

Number of UI Claims Filed:

Week of 9-4-04	51,863
Week of 9-11-04	49,849
Week of 9-18-04	51,088
Week of 9-25-04	51,753

Indiana@Work

Indiana@Work provides help to Indiana employers who are seeking a specialized and highly skilled workforce.

As part of this effort, DWD produced a television commercial which directed workers to WorkOne Centers for more information. The television spot ran statewide during the months of September and October.

Indiana@Work is based on a nationally recognized system called WorkKeys that teaches and assesses workplace skills.

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Developments

HOOSIER WORKERS & LIFELONG LEARNING ONLINE NEWS

Breaking News

Statewide building trades initiative to benefit 9,000 workers

Gov. Joe Kernan recently announced a \$1.15 million grant for a statewide building trades initiative. The training grant will be used to upgrade the skills of more than 9,000 building trades workers. Awarded through the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, the funding will allow journeypersons in the building trades industry to take general education and technical classes at Ivy Tech State College campuses throughout the state, resulting in college credit that can be applied to an associate or baccalaureate degree in the construction industry.

As part of the state's Skills 2016 program, the funding for the grant comes from the state's Unemployment Insurance Penalty and Interest Fund. Since the program began in 1997, more than \$13.2 million has been awarded, helping 20,000 Hoosiers improve their skills.

Indiana joins national marketing campaign to hire veterans

Capping off more than a year of veterans employment initiatives, Gov. Joe Kernan proclaimed November as "Hire a Vet Month" in Indiana and announced Indiana's participation in a national marketing campaign to assist veterans in finding employment.

Beginning November 1, the Department of Workforce Development's Veteran's Services unit will distribute 10,000 stickers to Hoosier businesses that have hired veterans. With the slogan, "Don't forget, hire a Vet," the stickers are designed to be placed on the front windows and doors of businesses. In addition, agency staff members will meet with local businesses throughout the state in an effort to promote the work experience and advanced technological skills many military personnel can bring to private-sector positions.

New auto manufacturing facility to add 420 jobs in Muncie

One of the world's largest automotive parts suppliers announced plans for a new manufacturing facility in Muncie. Magna Drivetrain of America, Inc. will build the new plant which will eventually hire 420 workers. The new plant is expected to be in full production within the next three years.

Gov. Joe Kernan said, "Through collaboration with the city of Muncie and county officials, the state of Indiana put together an incentive package to meet Magna Drivetrain's needs, which brings more good-paying jobs for Central Indiana workers. It was a great team effort that required a lot of hard work in state government as well as the local community. It's great news"

In addition to the Department of Commerce's \$4.6 million incentive package, the Department of Workforce Development is providing funding to match jobseekers' skills to particular jobs through Indiana@Work to help Magna Drivetrain assemble its new team of workers.